



PRESS RELEASE

AG Frosh: Olympus America, Inc. to Pay Maryland \$1.12 Million to Resolve Allegations of Anti-Kickback Violations

Baltimore, MD (May 3, 2016) -- Attorney General Brian E. Frosh announced today that Maryland has reached a settlement with Olympus America, Inc. to resolve allegations that it paid illegal kickbacks to healthcare providers. The lawsuit was jointly filed with other states and the federal government. Olympus agreed to pay \$306 million, \$1,124,606.30 million of which Maryland will receive.

"This scheme that exploited hospitals and ultimately, their patients, is disturbing and wrong," said Attorney General Frosh. "Our office will continue to participate in healthcare fraud investigations to ensure that companies, like Olympus, are not putting profits ahead of patient needs."

Specifically, the civil lawsuit alleged that Olympus, and its subsidiaries, used improper financial incentives to induce doctors and hospital executives to buy a wide ranging array of its endoscopes and other surgical equipment (equipment primarily employed in the course of numerous hospital procedures), and to thereby unlawfully increase sales and gain market share.

A National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units Team participated in the investigation and conducted the settlement negotiations with Olympus on behalf of the States and included representatives from the Offices of the Attorneys General for the states of California, Delaware, Indiana, New York, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Attorney General Frosh thanked Assistant Attorney General Adam T. Sampson and Medicaid Fraud Control Unit Chief Auditor Ruth Jarrell for their work on the case.